CLAIMS

1   1. In a data processing system including a legacy data base management system having a

2   command language coupled to a publically accessible digital data communication network,

3   the improvement comprising:

4   a. a response generated by said legacy data base management system; and

5   b. a facility for converting said response into an XML message which is transferable

6   over said publically accessible digital data communication network.

1   2. The improvement according to claim 1 wherein said facility further comprises an output

2   definition table.

1   3.   The improvement according to claim 2 wherein said facility further comprises a

2   document type definition corresponding to said XML message.

1   4. The improvement according to claim 3 wherein said facility includes storage for said

2   output definition table.

1   5.   The improvement according to claim 4 wherein said facility further comprises a

2   repository responsively coupled to said legacy data base management system wherein said

3   output definition table and said document type definition are stored within said repository.

1   6. An apparatus comprising:

2   a. a publically accessible digital data communication network;

3   b. a data base management system having an internal format different from XML

4   responsively coupled to said publically accessible digital data communication

5   network which generates a response in said internal format; and

6   c. an Output Definition Table which converts said response into an XML document

7   for transmission on said publically accessible digital data communication network.

7. The apparatus of claim 6 further comprising a Document Type Definition (DTD) which

defines a format of said XML document.

8.   The apparatus of claim 7 further comprising a repository within said data base

management system for storage of said Output Definition Table.

9. The apparatus of claim 8 further comprising a window for user activation of said Output

2   Definition Table.

1   10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said publically accessible digital data communication

2   system further comprises the Internet.

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1   11.   A method of supplying a response from a data base management system

2   comprising:

3   a.   transferring a service request to said data base management system via a

4   publically accessible digital data communication network;

5   b.   processing said service request by said data base management system to

6   produce a response;

7   c.   converting said response into an XML document using an Output

8   Definition Table (ODT); and

9   d.   transmitting said XML document via said publically accessible digital

10   data communication network.

1   12. A method according to claim 11 wherein said converting step includes use of a

2   Document Type Definition corresponding to said XML document.

1   13.   A method according to claim 12 wherein said Output Definition Table is

2   dynamically generated from storage.

1   14. A method according to claim 13 wherein said converting step further comprises an

2   XML element to source mapping tree containing an internal representation that

3   assures conformance to said Document Type Definition.

1   15. A method according to claim 14 wherein said publically accessible digital data

2   communication network further comprises the Internet.

1   16. An apparatus comprising:

2   a. means for transmitting an XML document via a publically accessible digital

3   data communication network;

4   b. means responsively coupled to said transmitting means for processing a

5   service request to produce a response;

6   c. means responsively coupled to said processing means for converting said

7   response into said XML document; and

8   d. means responsively coupled to said converting means and said transmitting

9   means for sending said XML document to said transmitting means for

10   transmission via said publically accessible digital data communication network.

1   17. An apparatus according to claim 16 wherein said processing means further

2   comprises a repository.

1   18. An apparatus according to claim 17 further comprising means for defining a format

2   of said XML document.

1   19. An apparatus according to claim 18 wherein said transmitting means further

2   comprises the Internet.

1   20. An apparatus according to claim 19 wherein said storing means stores said

2   defining means for future use.